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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Application No. : PCT/EP2003/007910 *AF2*

Application No. : To Be Assigned
First Named Inventor : Stefan SCHWARZ
Filed : February 4, 2005

Docket No. : 095309.55873US
Customer No. : 23911

Title : METHOD OF MAKING A JOINT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The relevance of DE 196 53 509 A1 to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the specification of the present invention.

An English abstract summarizing the disclosure of each of the foreign publications is submitted herewith.

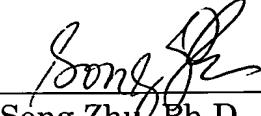
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007910
Attorney Docket No.: 095309.55873US
Information Disclosure Statement Dated February 8, 2005

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

February 7, 2005



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<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	To Be Assigned
				Filing Date	February 4, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Stefan SCHWARZ
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	095309.55873US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,010,155	01-04-2000	RINEHART	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		DE 101 59 154 A1	06-18-2003	GROCHE	
		DE 196 53 509 A1	06-25-1998	VOLKSWAGENWERK AG	
		DE 197 21 478 A1	11-26-1998	HAHN ORTWIN PROF DR ING	
		GB 2 330 104 A	04-14-1999	GKN SANKEY LIMITED	
		GB 330 096 A	04-14-1999	GKN SANKEY LIMITED	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ⁶
		International Search Report			
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Examiner Signature					Date Considered

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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